

15 September 1988

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JUDGE:

RE: Your proposed remarks

at the presentation of the

Distinguished Intelligence Medal

to

23 September 1988 11:30 a.m.

DCI Conference Room

You are scheduled to present the Distinguished Intelligence Medal to , the former Deputy Director of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) who retired in April, 1988 after more than 31 years with the Agency.

Since many of those present at this ceremony will have attended your meeting with senior FBIS officers the day before, your introduction includes a brief reference to that meeting and your 29 August tour of the FBIS facility in Reston.

Your proposed remarks are attached. Background information on will be included in the package forwarded by Protocol.

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Bill Baker

Attachment: As stated

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PROPOSED REMARKS

BY

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

AT THE

PRESENTATION OF THE DISTINGUISHED INTELLIGENCE MEDAL TO

SEPTEMBER 23, 1988

GOOD MORNING. I HAD THE PLEASURE OF VISITING FBIS IN RESTON	
SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, AND JUST YESTERDAY I SPOKE WITH MANY OF YOU ABOUT	
SOME OF THE ISSUES CONFRONTING FBIS AND THE AGENCY. I ALSO	
UNDERSTAND THAT GAVE AN EXCELLENT TALK YESTERDAY	STAT
AFTERNOON ABOUT THE SPECIFIC CHALLENGES THAT FBIS FACES IN THE	
FUTURE. I WANT TO ADD THAT I AM MOST IMPRESSED WITH THE TALENT AND	
RESOURCEFULNESS OF FBIS OFFICERS AND THE QUALITY OF YOUR PRODUCT.	
TODAY, IT IS A DISTINCT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE DISTINGUISHED	
INTELLIGENCE MEDAL TO AN OUTSTANDING FBIS OFFICER	
FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE	STA
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DURING A CAREER SPANNING MORE THAN 31	
YEARS.	
DEDICATION, FINE JUDGMENT, AND POISE UNDER PRESSURE ARE	STAT
ATTRIBUTES THAT SERVED HIM WELL IN A BROAD RANGE OF ASSIGNMENTS WITH	
FBIS, CULMINATING WITH HIS APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE	
OFFICE IN 1986.	

QUICKLY ESTABLISHED HIS CREDENTIALS AS A BRIGHT, DILIGENT
FBIS EDITOR SOON AFTER JOINING THE AGENCY AS A JUNIOR OFFICER
TRAINEE IN 1956. AFTER SERVING ON THE WIRE SERVICE AND AT THE EAST
COAST BUREAU. HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE VIENNA BUREAU IN 1958. VIENNA.
WITH ITS RICH CULTURAL TRADITION, WAS A PERFECT PLACE FOR AN
ACCOMPLISHED MUSICIAN LIKE AS MANY OF YOU KNOW. PLAYS
THE VIOLA AND VIOLIN. AND DURING HIS TWO ASSIGNMENTS IN AUSTRIA HE
BECAME PART OF THE VIENNA MUSICAL SCENE BY JOINING A LOCAL CHAMBER
MUSIC QUARTET.

FOLLOWING HIS THREE-YEAR TOUR IN AUSTRIA. WAS SENT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN BUREAU IN CYPRUS AS A SENIOR EDITOR. HIS MANAGERIAL CAREER BEGAN IN 1966, WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED CHIEF OF THE KEY WEST BUREAU. HE THEN SERVED IN OKINAWA AND AT THE AFRICAN BUREAU IN KADUNA ((KA-DOO-NA)), NIGERIA.

WITH THE AFRICAN BUREAU ASSIGNMENT COMPLETED. RETURNED TO

THE MEDITERRANEAN BUREAU IN CYPRUS IN 1973. THE JOB OF DEPUTY CHIEF

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THERE PROVED TO BE MORE CHALLENGING -- AND DANGEROUS -- THAN ANYONE EXPECTED.

WITHIN WEEKS OF HIS ARRIVAL, HE WAS REQUIRED TO MANAGE AN EXTRAORDINARILY COMPLEX COVERAGE AND STAFFING SITUATION CAUSED BY THE OUTBREAK OF THE 1973 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AND THE PERIOD OF "SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY" THAT FOLLOWED.

WHILE DEALING WITH PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE ARAB-ISRAELI CRISIS,

THE MEDITERRANEAN BUREAU WAS FACED WITH ANOTHER CRISIS -- AND THIS

ONE AT HOME. I'D LIKE TO FOCUS ON THIS EVENT, BECAUSE IT SAYS QUITE

A BIT ABOUT COURAGE AND DECISIVENESS.

THE COUP D'ETAT AGAINST THE MAKARIOS ((MA-KAR-REE-OS))

GOVERNMENT IN JULY, 1974 LED TO THE TURKISH INVASION OF NORTHERN

CYPRUS. BOMBS BEGAN EXPLODING AT 5:30 IN THE MORNING ON JULY 20TH,

AND FBIS WAS IN THE MIDST OF THE INVASION. SINCE THE BUREAU CHIEF

WAS SEVERAL MILES AWAY AT THE OFFICE COMPOUND AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE

FIGHTING, TOOK CHARGE. FROM THAT MOMENT ON, HE WAS THE ROVING

COMMANDER OF MORE THAN 150 FBIS EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS.

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RECOGNIZED AT THE OUTSET THAT THE GREEKS INTENDED TO MAKE A FIGHT OF IT -- A FIGHT THAT COULD ENDANGER FBIS LIVES. HE WISELY ORDERED A WITHDRAWAL OF FBIS PERSONNEL FROM THE MORE CRITICAL AREAS. SOON AFTER, ONE OF THE FBIS HOUSES BECAME AN INFERNO, KILLING ALL THE GREEK NATIONAL GUARDS WHO HAD TAKEN OVER THE DWELLING. THAT WAS TO BE ONLY ONE OF FIVE FBIS HOUSES THAT TOOK LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF ROUNDS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE AND SOME FIRE FROM AIRCRAFT.

THEM TO A U.N. CAMP. THE FBIS PEOPLE MADE THEIR HOME BASE THERE,
MANEUVERING IN AND OUT WHEN A FOREST FIRE BURNED THROUGH THE CAMP
AND TAKING TO DITCHES WHEN FIRING BECAME HEAVY AND THE TURKS OVERRAN
THEIR POSITION. THE DECISIONS MADE WERE BASED ON THE COUNSEL
HE COULD GET BY RADIO FROM HIS BUREAU CHIEF AND FROM HIS COLLEAGUES
ON THE SPOT.

ACCOUNTS OF LEADERSHIP SHOW HE WAS COOL, BRAVE, AND RIGHT.

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WHILE REVIEWING RECORD, I CAME ACROSS WHAT HIS BUREAU
CHIEF HAD TO SAY ABOUT HIS ACTIONS IN CYPRUS. HE SAID
"UNFLINCHING COOLNESS SAVED LIVES," AND HE ADDED, "FROM ME HE SHALL
HAVE THE HIGHEST HONORS." FOR HIS DEVOTION TO DUTY UNDER
CIRCUMSTANCES OF GRAVE PERSONAL RISK, WAS AWARDED THE
INTELLIGENCE STAR IN 1975.

THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST AND

LAST THING THAT SEPARATED FROM HIS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

FORTUNATELY THEY WERE FOUND INTACT AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS AND WERE

RESTORED TO HIM WITH THE FOLLOWING WORD FROM HEADQUARTERS: "VIOLIN AND VIOLA INVIOLATE."

AFTER SERVING AS CHIEF OF VIENNA BUREAU, RETURNED TO
WASHINGTON IN 1976, SERVING FIRST AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF ANALYSIS GROUP
AND LATER AS THE CHIEF OF PRODUCTION GROUP. PRIOR TO BECOMING
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FBIS IN 1986, HE SERVED AS CHIEF OF FBIS'S TWO
LARGEST BUREAUS, LONDON AND OKINAWA. WHILE AT LONDON BUREAU,

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INAUGURATED SATELLITE MONITORING THERE -- A PIONEERING EFFORT AT THE TIME THAT HAS SINCE BECOME A VITAL PART OF THE BUSINESS.

HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN A VARIETY OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSTS WERE SIGNIFICANT, AND ONE OF HIS SUPERVISORS CHARACTERIZED THIS WAY: "ROCK SOUND IN JUDGMENT, FRANK AND CLEAR IN ADVICE, AND AFFABLE YET FIRM IN COMMAND."

, THE DISTINGUISHED INTELLIGENCE MEDAL -- THE AGENCY'S
HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT AWARD -- IS NOT GIVEN OUT LIGHTLY. CONSIDERING
YOUR REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE YEARS ON BEHALF OF THE
AGENCY AND THE COUNTRY, IT IS RICHLY DESERVED.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR PLANS INCLUDE GARDENING, PURSUING YOUR MUSICAL AND LITERARY INTERESTS. AND HUMBLING YOUR OPPONENTS ON THE TENNIS COURT WITH THAT RENOWNED BACKHAND RETURN. ALL OF US WISH YOU WELL.

AND NOW, , IF YOU WILL JOIN ME WHILE THE CITATION IS READ.

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